CLAIMS

1. (Original) A method of transporting video and audio data comprising:

receiving, by a first transmitter, a video data stream;

receiving, by said first transmitter, an audio data stream;

generating, by said first transmitter, a composite data stream from said audio and video data streams;

communicating, by said first transmitter, said composite data stream to a second transmitter; and

communicating, by said second transmitter, said composite data stream to a remote receiver.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, including communicating said composite data stream to said remote receiver over a digital communications link.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said video data stream is a data enable signal.

4. (Original) The method of Claim 1, wherein said audio data stream is prepended to said video data stream.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising reconstructing said video and audio data streams from said composite stream.

6. (Original) A method of communicating data over a communications link comprising shortening a blanking period in the data to accommodate auxiliary data.

7. (Amended) The method of Claim 6, comprising modifying at least one [HYSNC] HSYNC signal in the data to accommodate said auxiliary data.

8. (Original) The method of Claim 6, wherein said auxiliary data is audio data.

9. (Original) The method of Claim 6, wherein said communications link is a digital communications link.

10. (Amended) The method of Claim 6, comprising modifying a [VYSNC] VSYNC signal in all frames in which the auxiliary data is to be transmitted.

11. (Amended) The method of Claim 10, further comprising inserting a notch in all said [VYSNC] VSYNC signals.

12. (Amended) The method of Claim 11, wherein inserting said notch includes inserting an 8 clock cycle pulse into said [VYSNC] VSYNC signals.

13. (Amended) The method of Claim 12, further wherein said notch is inserted into said VYSNC signals 8 clock pulses after a first edge of said [VYSNC] VSYNC signals.

14. (Original) The method of Claim 10, further comprising adapting at least one control signal to be compliant with a content protection standard.

15. (Original) The method of Claim 14, wherein said at least one control signal is adapted to be compliant with said content protection standard while transmitting said auxiliary data.

16. (Original) The method of Claim 14, wherein said control signal is ctl3.

17. (Original) The method of Claim 14, wherein said content protection standard comprises a High-bandwidth Digital Content Protection standard.

18. (Original) The method of Claim 14, wherein adapting said control signal comprises generating a ctl3 input using at least one VSYNC signal.

19. (Original) The method of Claim 18, further comprising ensuring that the ctl3 input is a positive going pulse.

20. (Original) A system for communicating data and auxiliary data over a video communications link, comprising:

a reformatter adapted to shorten a blanking period in the data to accommodate auxiliary data, forming at least one frame; and

a transmitter communicating with said reformatter and adapted to transmit said at least one frame over the communications link.